GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2332
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
CHILD LABOUR IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY
Mahto Shri Tek Lal

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several countries and European Companies have leveled allegations of continuing practice of child labour in the textile industry of the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to check the use of child labour in the textile industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): No, Sir. No such complaint has been received by the Government from any country or a European Company. However, one such instance has been reported in the media recently, where an International Company has reportedly cancelled orders from Indian suppliers on ground of use of child labour.

(b) & (c): Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, employment of children is prohibited in certain specified hazardous occupations and processes, which include handloom & powerloom industry, cloth printing, dyeing and weaving, cotton ginning and processing, production of hosiery goods, zari making and jute textile manufacture, etc. Government is regularly monitoring the implementation of the Act by the State Governments, who are the appropriate authority for the implementation of the Act for the areas under their jurisdiction. The States are regularly conducting raids and inspections to check the use of child labour. Further, for the rehabilitation of child labour, Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme in 250 districts of the country.